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Customer No. 24498
Attorney Docket: SCP061774
Office Action Date: November 21, 2008

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) Pay-per-use communication device, in particular for television pictures, comprising:
 - at least two input interfaces for receiving first and second scrambled signals bearing information subject to pay-per-use,
 - first and second processing pathways having respective first and second descrambling modules able to undertake the conversion of the first and second scrambled signals into first and second descrambled signals and provide the descrambled signals to at least two output interfaces, and
 - an access control module able to cooperate with a memory card for conditioning the operation of the first and second processing pathways,the first and second processing pathways comprising respective first and second management means for driving the conversions of the first and second scrambled signals via selected ones of the first and second descrambling modules, and in that the first management means is arranged to communicate with the access control module to obtain a first access control message for allowing conversion of the first scrambled signals, and the second management means is arranged to communicate with the access control module by way of the first management means to obtain a second access control message for allowing conversion of the second scrambled signals.

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2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) Device according to Claim 1, wherein the first management means are devised, on the one hand, to receive from the access control module, at predetermined time intervals, the first and second control messages, for the respective conversions of the first and second scrambled signals, and, on the other hand, to transmit the said second control messages to the second management means.

4. (Previously Presented) Device according to Claim 3, wherein the first and second management means respectively comprise a first and a second processor, which are devised so as to respectively drive the first and second descrambling modules for descrambling the first and second scrambled signals.

5. (Previously Presented) Device according to Claim 4, wherein the first processor is able to drive the second processor according to a protocol of the master/slave type.

6. (Previously Presented) Device according to Claim 4, wherein the first and second input interfaces are linked to means for receiving radio frequency waves, and in that the first and second processing pathways respectively comprise frequency converters each adapted to a polarization of the radiofrequency waves transmitted by a satellite.

7. (Cancelled)

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8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A pay-per-use communication device comprising:

a tuner device, said tuner device having a tuner device output,

a demodulator device, said demodulator device having a demodulator device input operatively coupled to said tuner device output and a demodulator device output;

a demultiplexer device, said demultiplexer device having a demultiplexer control input and a demultiplexer device input, said demultiplexer device input being operatively coupled to said demodulator device output, said demultiplexer device including a plurality of descrambler devices, said plurality of descrambler devices having a respective plurality of descrambler device outputs;

a plurality of decoding block devices, said plurality of decoding block devices including a respective plurality of decoding block device inputs, said plurality of decoding block device inputs being respectively operatively coupled to said plurality of demultiplexer device outputs; and

a controller device, said controller device having a controller device output, said controller device output being operatively coupled to said demultiplexer control input.

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11. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second access control messages perform cryptographic functions.

12. (New) The device according to Claim 11, wherein the first and second access control messages depend on a single descrambling key and on conditional access messages.